

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 05076 111053Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PM-05 NSC-05  
SP-02 SS-15 MCT-01 /051 W  
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R 111001Z JUL 78  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6272  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMCONSUL OPORTO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA  
USMISSION USNATO  
DIA WASH DC  
USNMR SHAPE BRUSSELS BEL  
COMUSFORAZ

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 5076

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINS PINT PO  
SUBJ: OPORTO BOMBING CASE DECIDED

REF: OPORTO A-21 OF SEPT 3, 1976

SUMMARY: THE COURTS HANDED DOWN A DECISION IN THE NORTHERN BOMBING CASE JULY 6 SENTENCING FIVE INDIVIDUALS TO SENTENCES RANGING FROM THREE TO 21 YEARS. THE COURTS EXONERATED ELEVEN OTHER ACCUSED INCLUDING FORMER OPORTO POLICE CHIEF MAJOR MOTA FREITAS. END SUMMARY.

1. JUDGEMENT RENDERED: THE EIGHT-MONTH TRIAL OF SIXTEEN ALLEGED PARTICIPANTS IN A NORTHERN BOMBING RING CAME TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AN END JULY 7. THE FIFTH MILITARY TRIBUNAL SENTENCED RAMIRO DOS REIS MOREIRA TO 21 YEARS IMPRISONMENT AND FOUR OTHER MEN TO SENTENCES RANGING FROM THREE TO NINE YEARS. ELEVEN OTHER SUSPECTS WERE EXONERATED INCLUDING FORMER OPORTO POLICE CHIEF MAJOR MOTA FREITAS WHO WAS ACCUSED OF MORAL AND MATERIAL INVOLVEMENT IN THE BOMBINGS.

2. REACTIONS: BOTH THE PROSECUTOR AND DEFENSE LAWYERS SAID THEY WOULD APPEAL THE VERDICT. IN GENERAL, THE LEFT IS UNHAPPY AND THE RIGHT IS SATISFIED. COMMUNIST "O DIARIO" HEADLINED JULY 7 "BOSSES FREED AND UNDERLINGS CONDEMNED." THE CONSERVATIVE PRESS POINTED TO THE COURT'S FINDING THAT THE EXISTENCE OF A CONSPIRACY HAD NOT BEEN PROVEN. CONSERVATIVE MILITARY OFFICERS ON JULY 8 EXPRESSED THEIR SATISFACTION TO ARMA OVER RELEASE OF FELLOW ARMY OFFICER MOTA FREITAS. MORE LEFTIST OFFICER TOLD ARMA THAT LEFT WOULD NOT COMPLAIN TOO VIGOROUSLY SINCE LEFTISTS ARE ALSO SUBJECT TO PENDING LEGAL ACTIONS.

3. COMMENT: LIKE MANY A PORTUGUESE CRISIS, THE OPORTO BOMBING CASE BEGAN WITH A BANG AND THE THREAT OF DAMAGING REVELATIONS (REFAIR), BUT APPEARS TO HAVE ENDED WITH A WHIMPER. BLOOMFIELD

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BOMBING  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1978LISBON05076  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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